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09/758,033	01/10/2001	Nobuhiro Komata	SCEI 17.966	8282

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EXAMINER
DHARIA, PRABODH M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2673	

DATE MAILED: 10/15/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/758,033	KOMATA, NOBUHIRO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Prabodh M Dharia	2673	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *10 January 2001* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-36* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-36* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) *4* .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other:

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in-
> (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or
> (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

3. Claims 1-5,8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Amano et al. (EP 0 922 431 A1).

Regarding Claim 1, Amano et al. teaches a setup method for a controller (4 of figure 5, Col.14, Lines 27, 28) that gives instructions (Col. 14, Lines 33,34, Col. 17, Lines 5-11) to a computer running software (Col. 14, Lines 33,34) depending on a pushing pressure by a user (col. 17, Lines 8-10) on a control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34) to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the

maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values, a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines 27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

Regarding Claim 2, Amano et al. teaches a recording medium (Col. 14, Lines 33,34) on which is recorded a computer-readable and executable software program (Col. 14, Lines 33-37) a setup method for a controller (4 of figure 5, Col.14, Lines 27, 28) that gives instructions (Col. 14, Lines 33,34, Col. 17, Lines 5-11) to a computer running software (Col. 14, Lines 33,34) depending on a pushing pressure by a user (col. 17, Lines 8-10) on a control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34) to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values, a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines 27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

Regarding Claim 3, Amano et al. teaches the corrected pressure-sensing value table or various corrected pressure-sensing values are stored in a storage unit provided internally in or external of the computer (5 of figure 5, Col. 14, Lines 29-32).

Regarding Claim 4, Amano et al. teaches a computer system (Col. 14, Lines 27,28) comprising: pressure sensing controller (figure 5, Col. 14, Lines 14-26) setup a method for a controller (4 of figure 5, Col.14, Lines 27, 28) that gives instructions (Col. 14, Lines 33,34, Col. 17, Lines 5-11) to a computer running software (Col. 14, Lines 33,34) depending on a pushing pressure by a user (col. 17, Lines 8-10) on a control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34)to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values, a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines 27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

Regarding Claim 5, Amano et al. teaches the corrected pressure-sensing value table or various corrected pressure-sensing values are stored in a storage unit internal to or external to the computer (5 of figure 5, Col. 14, Lines 29-32).

Regarding Claim 8, Amano et al. teaches a computer system (Col. 14, Lines 27,28) comprising: pressure sensing controller (figure 5, Col. 14, Lines 14-26) setup a method for a controller (4 of figure 5, Col.14, Lines 27, 28) that gives instructions (Col. 14, Lines 33,34, Col. 17, Lines 5-11) to a computer running software (Col. 14, Lines 33,34) depending on a pushing pressure by a user (col. 17, Lines 8-10) on a control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34) to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values, a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines 27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 6,7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Amano et al. (EP 0 922 431 A1) in view of Ogata et al. (6,402,616).

Regarding Claim 6, Amano et al. teaches a computer system (Col. 14, Lines 27,28) comprising: pressure sensing controller (figure 5, Col. 14, Lines 14-26) setup a method for a controller (4 of figure 5, Col.14, Lines 27, 28) that gives instructions (Col. 14, Lines 33,34, Col. 17, Lines 5-11) to a computer running software (Col. 14, Lines 33,34) depending on a pushing pressure by a user (col. 17, Lines 8-10) on a control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34)to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values, a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines 27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col. 17 Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

However, Amano et al. fails to teach the computer system is an entertainment system.

However, Ogata et al. teaches the computer system is an entertainment system (Col. 1, Lines 66,67).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Ogata et al. in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 7, Ogata et al. teaches the system is an entertainment system (Col. 1, Lines 8-15).

6. Claims 9-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Amano et al. (EP 0 922 431 A1) in view of Armstrong (6,347,997 B1).

Regarding Claim 9, Amano et al. teaches the correction means has a correction table for correcting the user pressure-sensing values (Col. 17, Lines 24-29).

However, Amano et al. fails to teach the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 10, Amano et al. teaches the correction table is prepared based on a stipulated program (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

Regarding Claim 11, Amano et al. teaches the correction table is prepared based on predetermined calculations (Col. 5, Line 45 to Col. 6, Line 7).

Regarding Claim 12, Amano et al. teaches a computer system (Col. 14, Lines 27,28) comprising: pressure sensing controller (figure 5, Col. 14, Lines 14-26) setup a method for a controller (4 of figure 5, Col.14, Lines 27, 28) that gives instructions (Col. 14, Lines 33,34, Col. 17, Lines 5-11) to a computer running software (Col. 14, Lines 33,34) depending on a pushing pressure by a user (col. 17, Lines 8-10) on a control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34)to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values, a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines 27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

However, Amano et al. fails to teach the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 13, Amano et al. teaches the correction means has a correction table for correcting the user pressure-sensing values to correspond to the pressure-sensing values based on the stipulated function(Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4, Col. 5, Line 45 to Col. 6, Line 7).

However, Amano et al. fails to teach the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 14, Amano et al. teaches the stipulated function is selected from a group consisting of second-order functions, higher-order functions, exponential functions and trigonometric functions, depending on characteristics of the instructions controlled by the control element (Col. 10, Line 4 to Col.12 Line 34).

Regarding Claim 15, Amano et al. teaches the correction table is prepared based on a stipulated program (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4, Col. 5, Line 45 to Col. 6, Line 7).

Regarding Claim 16, Amano et al. teaches the correction table is prepared based on predetermined calculations (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4, Col. 5, Line 45 to Col. 6, Line 7).

Regarding Claim 17, Amano et al. teaches a computer system (Col. 14, Lines 27,28) comprising: pressure sensing controller (figure 5, Col. 14, Lines 14-26) setup a method for a

controller (4 of figure 5, Col.14, Lines 27, 28) that gives instructions (Col. 14, Lines 33,34, Col. 17, Lines 5-11) to a computer running software (Col. 14, Lines 33,34) depending on a pushing pressure by a user (col. 17, Lines 8-10) on a control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34)to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values (Col. 17, Lines 51), a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines 27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

However, Amano et al. fails to teach game pressure-sensing value rate of change set by the software, and correction means for making the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change to correspond to the maximum game pressure-sensing value rate of change, and calculating intermediate values until the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change is reached proportionally corresponding to the game pressure-sensing value rate of change; wherein the user pressure-sensing value rate of change which is a pushing speed of the user on the control element is corrected by the correction means and used in the software.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12) and game pressure-sensing value rate of change set by the software, and correction means for making the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change to correspond to the maximum game

pressure-sensing value rate of change, and calculating intermediate values until the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change is reached proportionally corresponding to the game pressure-sensing value rate of change; wherein the user pressure-sensing value rate of change which is a pushing speed of the user on the control element is corrected by the correction means and used in the software (Col. 4, Lines 34-61).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 18, Amano et al. teaches the stipulated function is selected from a group consisting of second-order functions, higher-order functions, exponential functions and trigonometric functions, depending on characteristics of the instructions controlled by the control element (Col. 10, Line 4 to Col.12, Line 34).

Regarding Claim 19, Amano et al. teaches the correction table is prepared based on a stipulated program (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4, Col. 5, Line 45 to Col. 6, Line 7).

Regarding Claim 20, Amano et al. teaches the correction table is prepared based on predetermined calculations (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4, Col. 5, Line 45 to Col. 6, Line 7).

Regarding Claim 21, Amano et al. teaches a computer system (Col. 14, Lines 27,28) comprising: pressure sensing controller (figure 5, Col. 14, Lines 14-26) setup a method for a controller (4 of figure 5, Col.14, Lines 27, 28) that gives instructions (Col. 14, Lines 33,34, Col. 17, Lines 5-11) to a computer running software (Col. 14, Lines 33,34) depending on a pushing pressure by a user (col. 17, Lines 8-10) on a control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34)to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values (Col. 17, Lines 51), a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines 27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

However, Amano et al. fails to teach the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 22, Amano et al. teaches the correction means has a correction table for correcting the user pressure-sensing values (Col. 17, Lines 24-29).

However, Amano et al. fails to teach the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 23, Amano et al. teaches the correction table is prepared based on a stipulated program (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

Regarding Claim 24, Amano et al. teaches a computer system (Col. 14, Lines 27,28) comprising: pressure sensing controller (figure 5, Col. 14, Lines 14-26) setup a method for a controller (4 of figure 5, Col.14, Lines 27, 28) that gives instructions (Col. 14, Lines 33,34, Col. 17, Lines 5-11) to a computer running software (Col. 14, Lines 33,34) depending on a pushing pressure by a user (Col. 17, Lines 8-10) on a control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34)to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values (Col. 17, Lines 51), a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines

27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

However, Amano et al. fails to teach the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 25, Amano et al. teaches the correction means has a correction table for correcting the user pressure-sensing values (Col. 17, Lines 24-29).

However, Amano et al. fails to teach the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 26, Amano et al. teaches the correction table is prepared based on a stipulated function (Col. 17, Lines 3-5).

Regarding Claim 27, Amano et al. teaches the stipulated function is selected from a group consisting of second-order functions, higher-order functions, exponential functions and

trigonometric functions, depending on characteristics of the instructions controlled by the control element (Col. 10, Line 4 to Col.12, Line 34).

Regarding Claim 28, Amano et al. teaches the correction table is prepared based on a stipulated program (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

Regarding Claim 29, Amano et al. teaches the correction table is prepared based on predetermined calculations (Col. 5, Line 45 to Col. 6, Line 7).

Regarding Claim 30, Amano et al. teaches a computer system (Col. 14, Lines 27,28) comprising: pressure sensing controller (figure 5, Col. 14, Lines 14-26) setup a method for a controller (4 of figure 5, Col.14, Lines 27, 28) that gives instructions (Col. 14, Lines 33,34, Col. 17, Lines 5-11) to a computer running software (Col. 14, Lines 33,34) depending on a pushing pressure by a user (col. 17, Lines 8-10) on a control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34) to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values (Col. 17, Lines 51), a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines 27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

However, Amano et al. fails to teach game pressure-sensing value rate of change set by the software, and correction means for making the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change to correspond to the maximum game pressure-sensing value rate of change, and calculating intermediate values until the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change is reached proportionally corresponding to the game pressure-sensing value rate of change; wherein the user pressure-sensing value rate of change which is a pushing speed of the user on the control element is corrected by the correction means and used in the software.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12) and game pressure-sensing value rate of change set by the software, and correction means for making the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change to correspond to the maximum game pressure-sensing value rate of change, and calculating intermediate values until the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change is reached proportionally corresponding to the game pressure-sensing value rate of change; wherein the user pressure-sensing value rate of change which is a pushing speed of the user on the control element is corrected by the correction means and used in the software (Col. 4, Lines 34-61).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 31, Amano et al. teaches the correction means has a correction table for correcting the user pressure-sensing values (Col. 17, Lines 24-29).

However, Amano et al. fails to teach the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 32, Amano et al. teaches the correction table is prepared based on a stipulated program (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

Regarding Claim 33, Amano et al. teaches the correction table is prepared based on predetermined calculations (Col. 5, Line 45 to Col. 6, Line 7).

7. Claims 34-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogata et al. (6,402,616 B1) and Amano et al. (EP 0 922 431 A1) in view of Armstrong (6,347,997 B1).

Regarding Claim 34, Ogata et al. teaches a recording medium (figure 9,10, Col. 7, Line 48) on which is recorded a computer-readable and executable software program (Col. 8, Lines 22-30) containing a setup program (Col. 8, Lines 31-39) for a controller that gives instructions to a computer running software depending on a pushing pressure of a user on a control element (Col. 7, Line 54 to Col. 8, Line 4, Col. 8, Lines 18-25, Lines 14-17).

However, Ogata et al. fails to teach control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device of the controller, the setup program comprising the steps of: measuring a maximum user pressure-sensing value which is the maximum pushing pressure of the user; acquiring a

maximum game pressure-sensing value set by the software; and performing correction to make the maximum user pressure-sensing value to correspond to the maximum game pressure-sensing value, and calculate intermediate values until the maximum user pressure-sensing value is reached proportionally corresponding to the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Amano et al. teaches control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34) to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values (Col. 17, Lines 51), a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines 27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Amano et al. in the teaching of Ogata et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

However, Amano et al. fails to teach the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 35, Ogata et al. teaches a recording medium (figure 9,10, Col. 7, Line 48) on which is recorded a computer-readable and executable software program (Col. 8, Lines 22-30) containing a setup program (Col. 8, Lines 31-39) for a controller that gives instructions to a computer running software depending on a pushing pressure of a user on a control element (Col. 7, Line 54 to Col. 8, Line 4, Col. 8, Lines 18-25, Lines 14-17).

However, Ogata et al. fails to teach control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device of the controller, the setup program comprising the steps of: measuring a maximum user pressure-sensing value which is the maximum pushing pressure of the user; acquiring a maximum game pressure-sensing value set by the software; and performing correction to make the maximum user pressure-sensing value to correspond to the maximum game pressure-sensing value, and calculate intermediate values until the maximum user pressure-sensing value is reached proportionally corresponding to the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Amano et al. teaches control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34) to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values (Col. 17, Lines 51), a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines 27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col.

17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4) and pressure-sensing values based on a stipulated function (Col. 17, Lines 3-5).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Amano et al. in the teaching of Ogata et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

However, Amano et al. fails to teach the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Regarding Claim 36, Ogata et al. teaches a recording medium (figure 9,10, Col. 7, Line 48) on which is recorded a computer-readable and executable software program (Col. 8, Lines 22-30) containing a setup program (Col. 8, Lines 31-39) for a controller that gives instructions to a computer running software depending on a pushing pressure of a user on a control element (Col. 7, Line 54 to Col. 8, Line 4, Col. 8, Lines 18-25, Lines 14-17).

However, Ogata et al. fails to teach control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device of the controller, the setup program comprising the steps of: measuring a maximum user pressure-sensing value which is the maximum pushing pressure of the user; acquiring a maximum game pressure-sensing value set by the software; and performing correction to make the maximum user pressure-sensing value to correspond to the maximum game pressure-sensing value, and calculate intermediate values until the maximum user pressure-sensing value is reached proportionally corresponding to the game pressure-sensing values.

However, Amano et al. teaches control element connected to a pressure-sensitive device (Col. 12, Line 57 to Col. 13, Line 2, Col. 17, Lines 6-11) of the controller (Col. 14, Lines 27,28), the method, comprising: an instruction step wherein the user is instructed (Col. 17, Line 8, Line 34)to push the control element with at least a maximum strength (Col. 17, Lines 35,36), a storage step wherein a value obtained when the control element is pushed by the user, is stored as the maximum value (Col. 17, Lines 33-38); and a correction step wherein, based on the maximum value and a pressure-sensing value table defined in the software or various pressure-sensing values (Col. 17, Lines 51), a new corrected pressure-sensing value table (Col. 14, Lines 27-32, Col. 17, Lines 3-5) or various new corrected pressure-sensing values are generated (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4) and calculate intermediate values until the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change is reached proportionally corresponding to the game pressure-sensing value rate of change (Col. 17, Line 40 to Col. 18, Line 4).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Amano et al. in the teaching of Ogata et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

However, Amano et al. fails to teach game pressure-sensing value rate of change set by the software, and correction means for making the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change to correspond to the maximum game pressure-sensing value rate of change, and calculating intermediate values until the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change is reached proportionally corresponding to the game pressure-sensing value rate of change; wherein the user pressure-sensing value rate of change which is a pushing speed of the user on the control element is corrected by the correction means and used in the software.

However, Armstrong teaches the games pressing sensor values (Col. 2, Lines 4-12) and game pressure-sensing value rate of change set by the software, and correction means for making the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change to correspond to the maximum game pressure-sensing value rate of change, and calculating intermediate values until the maximum user pressure-sensing value rate of change is reached proportionally corresponding to the game pressure-sensing value rate of change; wherein the user pressure-sensing value rate of change which is a pushing speed of the user on the control element is corrected by the correction means and used in the software (Col. 4, Lines 34-61).

Thus it would have been obvious to one in ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Armstrong in the teaching of Amano et al. to provide better entertainment system including a video game.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Brossard (6,302,790 B1) Audio visual output for a gaming device.

Shinohara et al. (6,422,943 B2) Game apparatus, game machine manipulation device, game system and interactive communication method foe game apparatus.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prabodh Dharia whose telephone number is (703) 605-1231. The examiner can normally be reached Monday- Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala, can be reached at (703) 305-4938. The fax number of the group is (703) 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.

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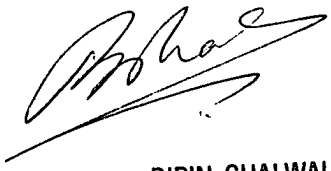

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Sheet 1 of

Application No.	: 09/758,033
Filing Date	: January 10, 2001
First Named Inventor:	N. KOMATA
Group Art Unit	: 2673
Examiner Name	: PRABODH DHARIA
Attorney Docket No.	:SCEI 17.966(100809-16191)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.[1]	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known[2]	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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Examiner Initials	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Office[3] Number[4] Kind Code[5] (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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	—	2 197 957 A	GB	Motorola Limited	06/02/1988	
	—	2 549 954	FR	Tarlowski et al.	02/01/1985	—

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	10/04/02

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

[1]Unique citation designation number. [2] See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. [3] Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [4] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1[6] if possible. [6] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 09/758,033	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination KOMATA, NOBUHIRO	
	Examiner Prabodh M Dharia	Art Unit 2673	Page 1 of 1

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*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
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	B	US-6,402,616 B1	06-2002	Ogata et al.	345/156
	C	US-6,422,943 B2	07-2002	Shinohara et al.	463/37
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	E	US-6,322,448 B1	11-2001	Kaku et al.	463/1
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